

REMARKS

The indicated allowability of Claim 19 has been withdrawn and the previously-submitted claims based on that claim - Claims 24-34 - have been rejected based on § 103 for various reasons. Claims 24-34 have now been cancelled and new Claims are submitted here which Applicants believe define patentable subject matter.

§ 112 Rejection

Claims 31 and 32, rejected under § 112, have been cancelled and no new claims are submitted here corresponding to these now cancelled claims.

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 24-30 and 33-34, rejected under § 103, have been cancelled.

The new claims 35 - 45 presented here correspond roughly to some of the now cancelled claims as follows:

New Claim	Old Claim
35	24
36	25
37	26
38	27
39	28
40	29
41	30
42	33
43	new
44	34
45	new

The new independent Claims 35, 42, and 44 and the new dependent claims by dependency from the new independent claim recite the limitations that:

- (a) the screen assembly is for a vibratory separator (or specifically a shale shaker - Claims 43, 45)
- (b) the screen assembly has layers of metal screening material
- (c) the first layer of screening material comprises material between 32 mesh to 400 mesh and the second layer of screening material comprising material between 24 mesh to 500 mesh (see Page 9, Specification, Paragraph 34)
- (d) liquid is passable through the layers of screening material
- (e) the pattern of applied glue is different from a pattern of the metal mesh of the first layer of screening material

Claims have been rejected in reliance on the Bachinski reference (U.S. 5,240,479) for teaching gluing layers of material together. Bachinski has no teaching or suggestion of limitations (a) - (e) listed above.

Bachinski's filter media passes air, not liquid. If his media passed liquid, it would be a failure.

Bachinski's layers are not metal, they do not have a metal mesh, and they do not have a metal mesh pattern. Bachinski has no teaching or suggestion regarding applying glue in a pattern different from a pattern of a layer of screening material - Bachinski simply does not mention (or suggest) anything about a pattern in his filter media. Bachinski does refer to his sheets of filter media as made with an "air laid" process (Bachinski, Col. 6, line 18). Such an air laid process does not result in a sheet which has a pattern to its fibers.

Material with the mesh size openings now specified in the new Claims submitted here would not work as Bachinski's filter media, and would not stop the particulates (down to 0.3 microns) that Bachinski's media must stop.

Subjecting Bachinski's filter media to vibration as encountered in a vibratory separator or shale shaker would destroy Bachinski's material.

For all these reasons Applicants respectfully submit that one of skill in the art would not look to Bachinski for any teaching or suggestion and also that Bachinski fails to teach or suggest the elements of the subject matter now claimed herein as

discussed above.

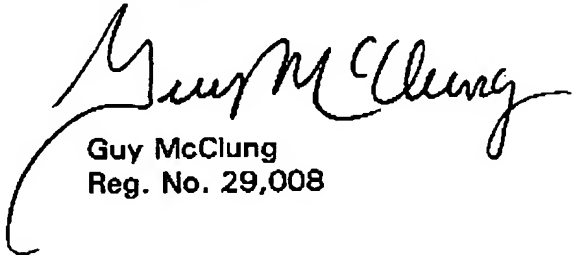
Applicants respectfully disagree that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that a screen would have to be transferred from one station to the next station or that mechanical means would have to be used to move the screen. A person could move a screen, e.g. a person with protective gloves, gear and clothing.

Applicants respectfully submit that the subject matter in the claims submitted here is nonobvious and patentable.

Conclusion

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's further work on this application and the careful and detailed Office Action. This is intended to be a complete Response to the Office Action. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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